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Altadena, CA 91001

November 08, 2006

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, California 91109

Attn: Jeffrey S. Norris (Jeffrey.S.Norris@jpl.nasa.gov)

Dear Mr. Norris,

This letter is in response to the recent job opening notification sent to USC students. I'm very excited about this opportunity; Not only does the application itself seem exciting, but I've been looking for a chance to come back to work at JPL and I feel I have many of the skills you are looking for. Attached, you will find a copy of my resume.

From 2000 to 2005 I worked at JPL as a contractor providing software engineering support for the Deep Space Network (DSN). During my last three years at JPL, I was a member of the Network Simplification Project (NSP) team which included over 100 individual contributors. In the summer of 2005, the project was coming to a close and, unfortunately, funding for my position was rapidly disappearing. As a result, I left the lab in June of 2005 and accepted a job at Northrop Grumman where I'm currently employed.

In addition to working full-time as a software engineer, I'm also a student at USC pursuing an MS degree in computer science. My degree specialization is Computer Networks and my current GPA is 3.9. I will be completing the program in the spring of 2008.

If you would like an on-lab reference, Susan Zia (x3-1560) was my direct supervisor for most of my time at JPL, and she could certainly attest to my abilities.

I hope you find that my experience provides a good fit for this job. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Jon Stinzel
(c) 626-840-7792

p.s.: Below I have listed some of the requirement you're looking for and a brief statement as to how I meet them.

o BS, MS or PhD in Computer Science: I hold a BS in Electrical Engineering and will soon hold an MS in Computer Science.

o Working knowledge of Java: The program I'm currently involved in at Northrop Grumman utilizes Java. In addition, I wrote a small hardware configuration utility in Java while at JPL. I'm currently taking a course in Artificial Intelligence at USC and Java is being used for the class projects.

o Experience working with a team on a large program: Both my current work at Northrop Grumman and previous work at JPL involved teams working on large programs.

o User interface design and development experience: My current work in Java includes UI code providing a moving map display and system interface for the user. My work at Bristol Babcock included developing GUI system front ends for process control systems.

o Experience with the Eclipse Rich Client Platform: I'm currently using Eclipse as a Java IDE, but not as a client platform.

o Knowledge of distributed systems: My degree specialization at USC is Computer Networks and study of distributed systems has been covered in my coursework there.

o Knowledge of web application programming (servlets, AJAX, etc): I completed a Web Technologies course at USC which included class projects covering these topics.

o Experience with continuous build/integration/test administration: My current program at Northrop and previous work at JPL both utilized a CM controlled build/integration/test process. In addition, I'm currently in a technical lead position at Northrop. This involves managing code peer reviews, build/delivery schedules and testing.